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SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : May I ask the Home Minister whether the families who go to the Andamans will settle there permanently or, after a lapse of time, return to their parent States?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The idea is that they should settle themselves there. But it is open to them to rehabilitate themselves there permanently or to return.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Is there any basis for selection of families for settlement in the Andamans?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The present idea is that for this year, the artisans among the repatriates should be selected for settlement in the Andamans.

SRI S. T. ADITYAN : Am I correct in saying that we from the Madras State have contributed the lowest number of families for settlement in the Andamans?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : That is so.

SRI S. T. ADITYAN : May I suggest that it is due to want of publicity in this State?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Rather I feel that it is not quite attractive to the repatriates.

SRI S. T. ADITYAN : The Tamilians who have settled in Ceylon, for instance, will find almost the same conditions in the Andamans—the same amount of rainfall, vegetation, etc. Has this been made clear to the people? Are there any handbooks or literature published on the subject by the Government?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I have no information as to what literature or handbooks have been published on the subject. But one can well understand the psychology of the poor repatriates. They have come from Ceylon and they will not be immediately prepared to go to the Andamans and settle there.

Minerals in Kanyakumari district.

* 8 *Q.*—SRI S. P. SIVASUBRAMANYA NADAR (on behalf of Sri K. T. Kosalram) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that gold and other mineral ores are found in the Kanyakumari district;

(*b*) if so, whether any geological survey has been taken up in this regard; and

(*c*) the stage at which the matter stands?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) to (*c*) The geological mapping and mineral survey in Kanyakumari district were commenced by the Geological Survey of India during the field season 1957–58. An area of about 35 square miles falling within the

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hilly areas of the Thovala taluk has been mapped so far. The investigation conducted so far has not brought to light any occurrence of gold-bearing quartz. The minerals so far met with are graphite and ilmenite. The systematic mapping of the district will be continued in the ensuing field season.

SRI S. T. ADITYAN : Graphite, as everybody knows, is a kind of ordinary building stone. Considering that ilmenite may be valuable, may I know the quantity that is available there and whether it is valuable from the point of view of economics?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The quantity is just of the order of 15,000 tons.

SRI T. G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Is the Hon. Minister aware that graphite is not a building stone but a kind of coal, carbon?

SRI S. T. ADITYAN : I thought it was granite.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The information may be exchanged between the two Members.

Payment of salary to the ayahs in the Gobichettipalayam Block Development area. 3-10 p.m.

* 9 Q.—SRI K. M. RAMASAMY GOUNDER : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been inordinate delay in the payment of salary to the ayahs employed in the different maternity and child welfare centres in the Gobichettipalayam Block Development area and, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether those centres have been recently taken over by the Health Department; and

(c) if so, from what date?

THE HON. SRI. M. A. MANICKAVELU : (a) There was some delay in the payment of salary to ayahs attached to the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres in the Gobichettipalayam Block Development area, due to administrative reasons. The salaries of the ayahs have since been paid up to date.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) From 9th August 1957.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : May I know whether the delay has been in the case of ayahs alone or whether there has been any delay in the case of other categories of employees also?

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The question relates to ayahs only.

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : The question relates to ayahs and information was got only about them.